## **News Release**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## CHURCHILL DOWNS OPENS AUCTION FOR 19 PEOPLE TO RACE ON ICONIC RACETRACK

## 'Heart Race at the Track' to Benefit American Heart Association

**LOUISVILLE, KY (Monday, Nov. 12, 2018)** – Churchill Downs today announced the opening of a public auction for 19 lucky runners to race each other on the iconic racetrack to raise awareness and money for the American Heart Association - Louisville. The winner of "Heart Race at the Track" will win two tickets to the 145<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Derby in May 2019. The public can bid to earn a spot in this once-in-a-lifetime race at <a href="https://www.KentuckyDerby.com/HeartRace">www.KentuckyDerby.com/HeartRace</a>. All proceeds will benefit the American Heart Association – Louisville (AHA).

The race will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 21 at 11 a.m. The runners will start out of the famous Churchill Downs' starting gate and run the Kentucky Derby's 1 1/4-mile distance to the finish line. The 19 highest bidders who have a spot in the race will be announced on Monday, Nov. 19 at <a href="https://www.KentuckyDerby.com/HeartRace">www.KentuckyDerby.com/HeartRace</a>.

The race is part of AHA's new Queen of Hearts campaign. The Heart Ball, AHA's annual fundraising event, nominates community leaders who exemplify a healthier Kentuckiana to be Queen of Hearts candidates to help raise money and awareness to reduce heart disease and stroke. Each Queen of Hearts candidate has committed to raising a minimum of \$10,000 to support AHA's mission. The candidate who raises the most money will be crowned the Queen of Hearts at the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Heart Ball on Feb. 9, 2019.

Churchill Downs' Vice President of Partnerships Kristin Warfield is a Queen of Hearts candidate who helped organize the "Heart Race at the Track" to raise money and awareness for AHA. She will fill the 20<sup>th</sup> spot in the race but is not eligible for the winning prize of two Derby tickets.

"I'm extremely honored to be a Queen of Hearts candidate," Warfield said. "Helping people live healthier lives and understand the importance of heart health are issues that are important to me personally. I've made many

changes in my diet and exercise during the past year to live healthier and I can't think of a better way to celebrate than support the American Heart Association through Heart Race at the Track."
To donate to the American Heart Association through Warfield's Queen of Hearts campaign visit <a href="https://www.KentuckyDerby.com/HeartRace">www.KentuckyDerby.com/HeartRace</a> .
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